Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 6, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 19 with the word "In" and ends on line 28 with the word "film" with the following amended paragraph:

In general, the thickness of layers of a multi-layer film can be any useful thickness based on factors such as the composition of a layer and its desired function within a microfiber article. The total thickness of a multi-layer film useful according to the invention may also be based on factors such as the composition of the intended microfiber article, the composition of layers of the microfiber article, and the intended utility of the microfiber article. The term "multi-layer" films does not include films referred to as "microlayer films," as described in U.S. 6,680,114 ~~Assignee's copending United States patent application serial number 09/858,253, entitled "Fibrous Films and Articles from Microlayer Substrates," filed 5-15-01~~ and incorporated herein by reference. Multi-layer films may, however, include such microlayer films as one or more layers within a multi-layer film.

On page 10, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 31 with the word "The" and ends on page 11, line 11 word the word "reference" with the following amended paragraph:

The multi-layer films according to the invention include at least one microfiber-forming layer. Microfiber-forming materials, e.g., microfiber layers, microfiber-forming films, or microfiber-forming film layers, useful according to the invention can include any materials that can be processed to form microfibers. Several classes of such materials exist and are known in the film and polymer arts. Examples of some of these materials, their methods of preparation, and methods of processing these materials to microfiber materials, are described in United States patent number 6,110,588; U.S. 6,331,343 ~~Assignee's copending United States patent application serial number 09/307,577, filed 5/7/99, entitled "Films Having a Fibrillated Surface and Method of Making"~~; U.S. 6,468,451~~United States patent application serial number 09/602,978, filed 6/23/00, entitled "Fibrillated Article and Method of Making"~~; and U.S. 6,420,024 ~~United States patent application~~

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~~serial number 09/746,355, filed 12/12/00, entitled "Microfibers, Microfibrillated Articles and Use Thereof,"~~ the entirety of each of these disclosures being incorporated herein by reference.

On page 15, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 31 with the word "Another" and ends on page 16, line 5 word the word "direction" with the following amended paragraph:

Another class of microfiber-forming materials that can be included as a microfiber-forming layer of a multi-layer film as described herein, includes microfiber-forming materials described in U.S. 6,468,451 ~~Assignee's copending patent application USSN 09/602,978, "Fibrillated Article and Method of Making," filed on 6/23/2000~~, the entirety of which is incorporated herein by reference. This patent application describes high melt strength polypropylene foams prepared by extruding a foamable mixture comprising a high melt-strength polypropylene and a blowing agent, and orienting in at least one direction.

On page 16, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 6 with the word "The" and ends on line 13 word the word "reference" with the following amended paragraph:

The high melt strength polypropylene includes homo- and copolymers containing 50 weight percent or more propylene monomer units, preferably at least 70 weight percent, and has a melt strength in the range of 25 to 60 cN at 190°C. Melt strength may be measured using an extensional rheometer by extruding the polymer through a 2.1 mm diameter capillary having a length of 41.9 mm at 190°C and at a rate of 0.030 cc/sec; the strand is stretched at a constant rate while measuring the force. Preferably the melt strength of the polypropylene is in the range of 30 to 55 cN, as described in U.S. 6,251,319 ~~WO 99/61520~~, the entirety of that disclosure being incorporated by reference.

On page 16, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 30 with the word "Other" and ends on page 17, line 3 word the word "reference" with the following amended paragraph:

Other components, e.g., non-polymeric materials, may be mixed into a polymeric material of a multi-layer film to facilitate microfiber formation, such as void-initiating components, calcium carbonate, or others, e.g., as described in U.S. 6,331,343 ~~Assignee's copending patent application~~

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~~USSN 09/307,577, "Films Having Fibrillated Surface and Method of Making," filed on May 7, 1999,~~ the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

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